
FUNERAL.

You and your family are requested to attend the funeral of **WARFIELD CLAY**, from the residence of his grandfather Dr. E. Warfield, to-morrow evening, at 4 o'clock, to the Lexington Cemetery.

Saturday, July 31st, 1852.



With your most affectionate
friend
The dear miss



Riddle Arms mutans

Western Military Institute
March. 6th 1850

Dear Mayfield

I received your letter on Sunday and as it was raining and very dull I thought that it would not have come in better time, but just as I was sitting down to answer it one of the boys came in and told me that there was a letter in the post office, and I went down and got ^{from} it from him in which he summoned me home to which place I went on Sunday evening and now I do not expect to go home before the first of May and then I hope I will see you. I will now tell you about this fight I had in the 2nd (as that was the reason of pa's sending for me), I and a great big boy were disputing about something when he called me a liar and as I walked up to him for the purpose of striking him, he caught hold of me and checked me for about ten minutes

and he then let me go and as he was too large for me to fight by fist I first picked up a poker which was lying near and struck him with it on the arm upon which he knocked me down and ran but I pursued him into the next room and there threw the poker at him and struck him in the pit of the stomach which liked to have killed him, Colonel Morgan says he could not blame me at all that he abused his superior strength and I acted right and as he was my room mate I soon removed my quarters and am now rooming with a very clever fellow named Wilcox. For as I am to tell you some of my private doings I scarcely know the meaning of private down here we have no private doings they are all open to the eyes of these vigilant professors however I will tell you what I do on Saturdays last Saturday a half dozen of us went down the river to take a walk and to see if we could catch a glimpse of a girl (for they are very scarce about

I think I shall remain here for a year

here) as we strolled along we saw two very pretty girls out in the middle of the river in a canoe, trying to get to shore and as the river was very rapid the canoe kept revolving around and they had lost all control of it there was another canoe lashed near by and four got in (I included) and went out to the rescue we got hold of the canoe and took the ladies out and towed the canoe to shore, when we got safe on shore they were overflowing with gratitude and said that we had saved their lives (which we certainly did) and we walked with them home and got an excellent dinner plenty of homemade sugar and molasses and took our leave promising to return on next Saturday which promise I think I shall certainly keep. The fare is pretty good the table is not very good but you have such excellent rooms - that they compensate for the table and now as it is getting late and I have written three pages with nothing in them I must bid you farewell and believe me your affectionate cousin N. W. Warfield

Lexington Ky. Oct 20th 1851.

Dear Warfield,

Having received your pleasant letter about a week ago, I waited some time for a writing fit to come over me, but as it seemed very slow about coming I determined to write whether or no, and so you will receive a very dull letter, for I never can write a letter fit to be read by a man of sense like yourself unless it comes by inspiration, but my anxiety to hear from you had made me selfish enough to bore you with a dull prolix letter. I was very sorry not to be able to come over to that ball in Richmond, but my professional duties would not permit of it, for I have in bona fide commenced operations at uncle Lloyd's, but don't stay in town all the time on account of Willy Hunt's ill health, I have seen Lisk several times he stayed at our house for a couple days says he is going to Texas, says he has gained much, but been most dammably laid up.

I have not written to Horace yet have you heard from him lately, I will write to him shortly this is the dullest place in the whole of the globe I reckon there is more excitement at present than here.

PAID
OCT 21
Warfield Clay
Care of B. H. Collier
White Hall
Madison Co Ky
W. H. C.

Sunday is the only day I can call my own
and then I loom out, get down to sleep
and distinguish myself by wearing a dirty
pair of white kid shoes. The most exciting
thing I have heard of lately was created by
John Jones coming to town getting drunk
and dancing before Thompsons corner with
out his breeches in broad day light and do
he never wears drawers it was a very
conspicuous sight. Whereupon he was most
gallantly escorted (as he was) to the Livingston
Hotel, (thru) the watch house by Mr. Bandry
and now dear Warfield as I have told
you all the news I have heard of I hope
you will excuse this most miserable and
indelicous scrawl. I only wrote it to get
out of your agreeable letters in return. Love
to your Ma and children respects to your
Pa - your affectionate Cousin
Mr Warfield

Lexington Ky Dec 2^d 1851

Dear Winfield,

Sitting in my room this gloomy day, musing over a dull book my thoughts running ahead trying to take a peep into futurity, and naturally occasionally questing to the past and with the just to my old companions of times by gone. I was naturally sorry for their death, and not being able to acquire that, my next plan is to correspond with them through the just, accordingly I begin with you No 1. I should have written long since but there were so many obstacles in the way that I have constantly postponed until now, and perhaps would have continued to do so had I not been so anxious to hear from you, for I was felt off in the humor for writing in my life. But I hope you will excuse my negligence for I was so busy that I could not had time to write until now, I stand pa just left on Friday, and I am comparatively free now for he kept me continually with him all the time that I was ^{in the} ~~in the~~ ^{house}; Excuse me for writing so much about my self

E. M. Clary
Care of E. M. Clary
White Hall
Marion Ky

I will now tell you the news of the town which I hope
will prove much more interesting. In the first
place, Lexington is the dullest place in the world
(which, is no news, I suppose you have heard of
Poor Old Blays illness which is thought by some
to be mortal, I am very much afraid he will not
get over it. When are you coming over to Lex-
write me word and if you come Christmas
I will go over to your house 2 or 3 days before
and come back with you. We had a dance at
Chales a week ago on which occasion I figured
with considerable applause.

Please excuse this letter for it is the most
foolish letter in the world. I am afraid to
read it for I know I'll burn it up and
not have energy to write another.
burn it as soon as you get it -
and answer soon

Long affectionate Friend and
Cousin A. M. Warfield

This was a pretty boy I was in was it not Warfield. I think I played my cards well to get out of it as I did. There is a horse taken to night by your mother's woman's sister. She is to be kept in the house until the subject of the woman's appearance.

in the parlor. Have not words to express my admiration of these three groups - sufficient it to say that I gave them an invitation to attend the concert with me - not expecting that more than one would attend but to my surprise & mortification he it said that they all forthwith excepted. You may imagine my confusion when I anticipated the gratification of leading them by a high old meads into a respectable community where all the beauties of Providence were to assemble. But one of them concluded not to go to my infinite joy. I can not recall what put it into my head to hint to them of the concert. I have said that I did not expect more than one to attend - in fact I expected a blunt refusal from all as I thought that their opinion of me was so telling how safe their honor might be with such company that accounts for two of them going. I had two tickets to the concert. Had no money to buy more. So I put a note into I had got to the door that I had lost one of the tickets - besides I had left my hat at home - so I made one of the meads (I would guarrantee that either I pay for her self, I expect that was the only half dollar she ever had by the parties was appearing).

I have not any very particular objection to the letters. I have before I received them of my friends with the exception of one which I do not know who sent it to you.

Love to Pa & Ma & Belure and A # Braud.

Providence Jan 28th 1852

Dear Warfield

In answer to your letter received yesterday I commence this. In the first place you shall never complain again of the smallness of my sheets. I will take your plan - that is take away large sheets and spreadle my words out & write in large letters and I shall then fill up. That certainly is your way but I do not say this as a complaint Warfield, for you wrote a very good letter indeed, considering that you are from the back woods & have never seen anything civilized besides taking into consideration the sadly neglected state of your education. Why as we now expect anything from you. Now if you had been sent off to Yankee Land to a distant girls school as I have it would have been different. However enough of this I think you are sufficiently assured yourself to see you for low condition

With regard to your letter a small
item struck me very forcibly
you can not be long in guessing
what that item was. I am truly
grateful for the dinner you sent
I wish you would send one in
every letter. I indeed I think we
could keep up a very brisk correspon-
dence under such circumstances
I just wanted a dinner to make
up the sum necessary to buy
a ticket to the Germania concert
& I very believe it to be an intimation
of Providence. It was truly welcome
But I am afraid you will say that
I am a most unparal'd spirit for
it went like a flash. My liberality
has been very much praised since I
have been in Providence. Only think
the other day I was so extravagant
as to buy three cents worth of pro-
sents to treat a friend or so of mine. I went
to the Germania concert the other
night or last night with two ladies.
I liked the music very much espe-
cially as I had two lovely furnitures at
each side - Especially I say the music
was fine. In the first place Warfield
I will tell you how I am situated at

Never complain of my writing short letters
again - if you do I will write a page full
next time. This is a large sheet & well filled.

the present time in Providence
Know then my dear friend
that the College term has closed
and I have passed the Rubicon
that is the examination. The storm
time has passed & I stand as him-
self again. I have left my room
at College & am now boarding at
a fashionable boarding house
on Westminster street which is
the great promenade street of
Providence. My Hostess is an elderly
lady who is rather past the prime
of life & I would think were I to see
her in her ball dress to be at a very
sensitive age. I would judge she
were about eighty. She still possesses
the charms & attractions of youth
& she has a modest way of bringing
into play her various accomplishments
which are rendered more fascina-
ting by the unsophisticated introduction
This charming woman has three lovely
daughters which strange to relate are yet
unmarried. The youngest is thirty & the
eldest 40 years old. It is impossible for me
to picture or describe the smiling
faces & lovely forms which I am forced
to confront whenever I make my applica-

for your temporal and spiritual welfare.
I shall rejoice to see you when you make New Haven
your home. Doubtless, if I continue here, I shall oc-
casionaly get on the track for New Haven from Hartford.
I did intend to write to Green, and Mary and Sallie,
to-day, but must defer, as it is nearly 10. P.M.

Yesterday I sent to you rather the inaugural address
of your Professor, whom we like very much.

I shall be exceedingly gratified to receive, as
soon as you can write one, a good long letter from you.
I want to hear all the items of news - a little of all
things in general, and much of every thing in particular.

Undoubtedly you find Mr. Cotton a very pleasant
and competent teacher.

Is Mr. Hosman pastor of the Presbyterian Church
in Richmond yet? I believe I saw a notice in my
Independent to the effect that Mr. Campbell of Rich-
mond Ky had received a call to a Professorship
in some Virginia College.

Please to give my warmest regards to your parents.
I have abundant reason for gratitude to them and
to you all, for your courtesy and kindness to me dur-
ing my sojourn with you. But mere verbal thanks
seem a poor return from me. I wish I could do more.

May Heaven's blessings attend you. Fairfield, please
to write to me ere long, and believe me

Ever your Friend
Wm. Fairfield
Hartford, Conn.
3
Benjamin Furrow

Theological Institute
East Windsor Hill, Conn.
January 2^d 1852

My Friend Fairfield

I shall not commence a communi-
cation to you with a long et-wet introduction in
the way of an apology. Shakespeare says:

"What is done cannot be now amended," and
therefore I shall simply ask you to pardon my long de-
lay. The same author says:

"The honest tale speeds best, being plainly told."

I shall then ask you not to read a sophomoric dis-
quisition filled with much affected wisdom and
much more bombastic phrase and nonsense, but
to converse with me familiarly on topics and things in
general. My sudden departure from Kentucky and
the motives therefor (though unknown to most) have doubt-
less been found for many, and supposing that good
old Madame Tossip has by this time satisfied her
appetite, and perhaps got the Dyspepsia, in consequence
of swallowing such wind, I need not now prepare
my thing in that line. Especially since you are well
acquainted with all the circumstances under which
my hasty exit occurred. One thing is certain - that

if I committed any error in the whole transaction, I am sincerely sorry for it; and another thing is certain - that in compliance with the spirit and precepts of the Gospel of peace and good-will to men; I do most humbly forgive all who ever did, or do now entertain any enmity against me. For his own Master every man standeth or falleth. I trust they will be forgiven by him who even on earth, and surely also in heaven, has power to forgive sin.

My health since I left Kentucky has been generally very good. Soon after reaching home I obtained a situation to teach in a Reading School, and continued there four months. I enjoyed the summer finely - had an abundance of fruit, especially peaches &c.

By the date of this you perceive I have commenced my career of Theological study. The weather is now quite mild, the sun nearly on the western horizon, and from my room "third story back-middl", I have a charming prospect. The Connecticut glistening with the last rays of the setting sun, and presenting here and there a white cake of ice, glided slowly southward, but a short distance from the seminary building. Between the bank and the river lies a far-reaching plain partially covered with water. Beyond this and across the river is Old Windsor, Windsor Locks, and South-wind 8 miles. Hartford sends up its spires; white stretching along from north to south, a long range of mountains the snow-capped constitutes an im-

possible barrier to my vision on the west.

The Students make society among themselves, still we are in a quiet, orderly and intelligent community. The studies of my class are Hebrew, Greek, Harmony, and Theological Lectures. In addition to these we have Dissertations to write on various subjects, weekly declamations, Literary Society performances &c. &c. and, all in all, we have enough to employ all our time pleasantly and profitably.

I have not heard from Mr. Bourne recently, but hope to write to him ere long.

How do you succeed in your studies? Do you intend to enter Old Yale next Summer? If so, will you cast in your fortunes with the "Peoples in Distress", with the Calliopeans, or has my friend Colton, by most irrefragable (heard! what a rough word for!) arguments made you a Simonian? If you should enter Yale it would please me to hear of your becoming a member of the Brothers Society, but such memberships are in themselves of minor importance compared with the great interests of the soul. Much of my conduct as your presence, - conduct not sufficiently under the influence of the all-controlling thought of God's presence - furnish - as you now with subject matter for self-approach and humiliation. However imperfectly, yet, I trust, sincerely, did I seek to promote your best interests, and be assured you have now my most ardent wishes

Deerfield Feb 16th 1852

I received a few days since your long looked for letter dear Warfield. You say that you will not offer an excuse it is well that you do not for I know that if it had been your wish you could have found leisure moments enough to write to your absent cousin, Cousin Elisha Hunt has been with us a week, he and Pa started for Memphis this morning perhaps cousin Elisha will settle there, I do not think that Cousin Elisha changed much in appearance, Pa's trip to Memphis now is to try and buy a place, if he succeeds we will move there in April if he does not succeed in purchasing a place he thinks of visiting Pa this summer. It will give me so much pleasure to see you all once again, just to think we have not seen each other for more than three years, I think of our frolics with much pleasure, our games of backgammon &c I have become quite an expert chess player, I have been practising lately with cousin Elisha, I have been reading several of Scott's novels lately if you have never read them I advise you to do so you will find them deeply interesting particularly Ivanhoe, Kenilworth, and The Pirate, We have had some better cold weather this winter, I do dislike cold weather so much that I will be delighted when Spring comes to clothe the forest in verdure, The appearance is so dreary now that it is enough to keep one in the blues all the time, Tell Green Elisha says he did not expect him to have so neglected his letter but he intends making one more effort to induce him to keep a correspondance with him if he fails to succeed he will not try again, I expect to find my

dear Cousins, Nat and Warfield elegant and accom-
plished young gentlemen so elegant and refined
that they will scarcely deign to recognise their relations
from the wilds of Arkansas. Tell your Mother that Ma
received her letter and will answer her part of it very
soon. I suppose when Chattow comes home she
will be an elegant and accomplished young lady.
Perhaps I may go to Philadelphia to school next
summer. As I have no news to tell I will close my uninter-
esting epistle. All join me in love to your Ma, Pa, children,
and your self. Write soon to your loving cousin

Harriet G Warfield,

Paid



Mr. E. W. Clay

Box Four

Madison, Ky

W. H. Board to E. W. Clay Lexington Ky

Providence Sunday July 11th 1857

Dear Mr. Wafield

I received your very unexpected treat in the shape of a letter, two days ago. you were very prompt in your reply, indeed for I hardly thought but you had more than received my letter when I received your very agreeable & well written document. You need not be ashamed of any such letter for I confess candidly to you that I think it was very well written, spelt & worded. You seemed to think by my letter that I was not in worthy of the honorable appellation Poetica & poeticant. I cant tell why you think so far there was nothing in the shape of poetry in my epistle. As to its being well written, I am not so conceited as to think that such a piece of discouberated matter written in this kind that I was in can be any thing else than a bolus of jargon. When I commenced this letter I thought I would leave a margin, but in the excited state of my mind I see I have written over it. You undervate your conversational powers & your fascinating manner, when you say, it would take something more than Niagara to make Miss Kate fall in love with this Hoop. I know she was very much

pleased with you when I last saw him. But
women are so changeable that there is placing
any dependence on them. You would perhaps
feel rather soft if in your next meeting you found
him as cool as an icicle & there would be a pretty con-
siderable contrast between that & your first interview.
You say you are engaged in the laudable design of rais-
ing a company of Light Horse for the protection
of Kentucky & the W. I. I suppose of course when I
return you will give me an office. Kentucky I think
needs some protection from the violent assaults of
the north & I am extremely gratified that the sons
of freedom in Madison, Ky. are making preparations
for a bold stand. But enough of this, I had heard
through my private correspondence that Mr.
B. W. Clay was giving grand feasts & entertainments
at White Hall. I wrote to Ritty telling her that
I suppose you were by this time fully invested
with all the dignity & importance of a trustee
bid. You ask me to give you an insight into my
private affairs, & pray &c. I have not had any news
since I left Lexington nor do I expect to have any
for some time. My career of dissipation is at an
end. I was rather afraid to write any thing of my
private affairs in my last letter for fear it would
get to your mother or father. My room mate is
a young fellow from Troy N. Y. & is a full blooded
Togian. When you see Nat make him read your

I have taken the liberty to pry for this as it will be cheaper for both & I am told that
a prepared letter is most useful to reach its point of destination.

H. H. Brand.

what I said about the denw-factory. I have
written to all of the boys. Ben, Buck, George &
B. W. Clay. My circle is finished & I commence at
you again. Give my love to all the boys & tell
them I will write to them next time if I have
the time. You know I have the will & where
there is a will there is a way. Tell me in your
answer if I can write to you & express my sentiments
without there being the least possible chance of
any ones ever seeing them. You know I wrote you
a short note from Lexington enclosing Mrs. K. L. C.'s
invitation which you said your father got hold
of. I would not have him see one of my letters to
Buck or Ben for a Kingdom. I expect to go to
Baltimore in a week or so to spend some weeks of my
vacation, if there is any fun to be had. I will have
my fingers in the pot. Concerning my letters to you
boys; I do not care how much you show them to each
other or talk about them together, but for Heaven's sake
don't show them to any one else. I know Nat would
just as live show my letters to his mother & tell her as
not, so I wrote to the gentleman a little blackguard
addressing him not to have any more spies. I don't
think it will be very apt to be sure. The time is out
& I expect to be examined in a week. But I must draw to
a point. Good bye & remember I am,
H. H. Brand. Your Friend,
H. H. Brand.

What it is I am justly delighted with it and I know will like it, Billy do well although it is quite hard indeed. Henry Clay is in my class and is quite a fine fellow but quite fond of a theorem. I must now close but will in my next letter give you all the information that will interest you I will give you some information with regard to preparation, but you will probably prefer things you require the regulations, write to me and tell me when you expect to come. You will come in September or if you do not come when you cannot until next I will apply immediately.

Your friend truly
Ezekiel W. Hollway
Cadet U. S. M. A.

West Point July 21st 1851

Dear Friend

With what pleasure I received your letter just now you may well imagine. And are you really in earnest? or only in joke. But I suppose you really are in earnest from the tenor of your letter. But now to the point I am now ready to give you all the information you wish and probably a little more than you do. Answers one at a time 1st you wish to know whether they examine a person or not they do both medically and mentally. The latter examination is a complete three and you need not fear anything from the other. They examine you in the 4 ground rules of arithmetic and any boy of 6 years old may solve any question they will propose they do not require much at 1st of any one. For many persons come here utterly ignorant of anything nearly and who afterwards in the end take do very well indeed. 2^d with regard to the hours of study and the studies. 1st Reveille beats at 5 o'clock about in the morning you then attend a roll call and then retire to your room and study until the signal for

breakfast which is at 7. between 9 and 9 you eat your breakfast visit and do as you please then the Call to quarters sounds and you return to your room and study until 1 then you go to dinner and have until 2 to do as you please then the Call to quarters sounds again and you are again released however in the mean time you attend the section rovers during particular hours of the day and recite in your different studies. When in Barracks you have but one drill per day of 2 hours continuance. What I have said above with regard to the hours of study during the whole 10 months of study ^{is the same} excepting that during the winter months you have no drill whatever during the day. When you go into Camp you have generally 3 drills per day one Artillery and 2 Infantry. The encampment is considered more of a vacation than anything else you have no studying whatever to do you generally go in Camp about the 20th of June and break up about the 29th of August. You wish to know something with regard to the intimacy existing between the different Classes. They generally ^{keep} their distance and there is but little intimacy among each class them. This is perfectly right as you will find out if you ever enter this place. But if you do come and I sincerely hope you may we will both be as intimate as ever

for no difference of Class shall make any difference with regard to our friendship for we have always been the best of friends and I hope will ever remain the same. You wish also to whether they allow the Cadets to travel during the Encampment or vacation they do not and no Cadet is allowed to leave the Post at any time on leave of absence unless by sickness of relations or from some other serious cause. You are allowed to go on Furlough after you have staid here 2 years for 2 months I shall go on the same next June. With regard to the amusements of the Cadets I can give you no information whatever some employ their time in one way and some in another in Winter we occasionally play foot ball and fish in the spring but what a time we have swimming in the river and last year we wished me to send you a copy of the Regulations of the Academy. I could do so but I have a list of the same in full at home and more so than any I could get here. When you go to B. Call at home and get it the registers have not as yet been made out. All the regulations are carried out to the point and they are very strict indeed. Finally my opinion of West-Point life too. Any person after having staid here 2 months and liked the life would not change it for any other I care not

See p. 111 sent this to me
to count to three
I wonder if I had no
longer in volume. I am
not sure if you are long
then - he has been so taking
the evening. See the letter for
morning. P. 111.

Whitehall N.Y.
Feb 20 1852

Dear Chulton

You may with good
reason ask why I have not written long
ere this, before your remembrance of me
had faded from the bright tablet of
memory, before the thoughts of me had
died away in the affacing lapse of
time? I answer that, it was from no
want of affection for you, or forgetfulness
but from a mere languor, and aversion
to letter writing. Yet I hope I may
yet be in time, and that this may
redeem my character from all stain
of want of remembrance, and that I
may yet be honoured at a short date
with a few lines emanating from your
brilliant mind. Commenting with the
familiar and descending downwards ever
to my humble self, I will endeavor
to give you all the news, for I know
Ladies like the news about all things,
except perhaps themselves. On Christ Church
day a grand dinner came off at the
Meadows with ^{great} éclat, attended as usual
by all the Chicks with great and small.

Afternoon there was some dancing and
card playing among the juvenals, and
in the evening there was a grand
cotillion and miscellaneous sets, there
being eight (I am not a person) Vir.
Miss Henrietta Morgan, and Fannie Warfield
(both belles of the evening) Mary Clay,
Fannie and Maria B. Hunt (ladies in gene-
ral) Dents, A. W. Warfield, in blue dress
coat and gilt buttons, flaming red cravat
&c (quite the thing) Percy Warfield ditto
minus however a tite to his coat, Sam
Clay standing collar or big cravat, and
the exquisites B. P. Parson Esq quite a
favourite (your humble servant in loose
coat and tight pantaloons &c. Speaking
of parties Ellen Warfield is going to have
a fancy ball some time this month
when I don't know I have been a
good deal in dex lately. Spent a part
of my vacation in Frankfurt & Jersey
ville. Cousin Kate was in Frankfurt
good deal admired I believe, always is.
All of your Ma's family are well, but
I suppose you keep up a constant
correspondence. I understand that you
have visited Kate Morrison for some time
I suppose, but I know you are very much
pleased with her, who would not be I suppose
she is very much admired in Philadelphia.
You must give her any compliments.
P.

I stayed with Bucke Morrison a few
nights when I was over and I never
visited a more polite and agreeable
family in my life. I expect to come north
in the summer, and I hope I shall
be able to see you. Now more news
you know I dislike to write long
letters, so you must excuse me if
this is too long for I made quite
an effort to make it two pages
and a half. Ma sends her love
and advises you to study hard
~~and make a good book~~ and send
around a line. Excuse mistakes &c
Your aff cousin
Warfield Clay.

And now dear Marjorie I hope you are not vexed this as it is written
my early days. I have well & may I have protect you for a friend you are
to have a letter from me. I have well & may I have protect you for a friend you are
wrote me an answer but so long after
that I had nearly forgotten I had sent
to him & moreover he showed my letter
to his mother & Ma. You can not expect
a man to write a free & unrestrained
letter when he knows it will go the
rounds in the neighbour hood. There
is nothing in any of my letters that
I would care for any one seeing unless
it is a vulgar sentence or an oath. There
was nothing in my letter to George but one
thing that was speaking of the Yankees
I said the d-d Yankees which I am
sorry for. Both vulgar and oaths
I will never for ever banish from my
correspondence. George did not know the
game that his showing that letter
would do or he never would have done
it. I at first thought I would not answer
his letter but at Ma's request I will
look over it. When you see George
tell him this or read the letter to him
Ben wrote me a letter - I must not
call it a letter for it was written on a piece
of note paper of the most fancy sort. I thought
to my self when I showed it that it
was from some of the fancy young
ladies - but lo & behold it was signed B W
No one else than the farmer.

You are what I call a friend in need & once in a thousand
write soon & remember your kind & affectionate friend
& My love to Pa & Ma & to my dear friends. Your friend
(H. H. H.)

I imagine my surprise. I thought Ben
would have honored me with a good
long sheet as I did him. You would
laugh if you were to see it. Your account
of the ball was quite interesting in your letter
& I wonder at your new love scrape. Miss
Date is forgotten I suppose & you are as
fickle as ever. Alas, Alas, that things
should come to such a pass - that my
young friend should be so desperate as to
keep a young ladies hand. Thousands & light
ning - be careful my dear friend or else
your young affections will be sorely
trifled with - your peace of mind will
be for ever destroyed. Take my advise &
let the fair sex alone. I am you know
your senior & my experience teaches me
that there is every thing to loose & nothing
to gain in such things - also there is very
little confidence to be placed in what a
woman says. And now with this advise
I will tell you something about my self.
I left Providence on the 13th of July about
six weeks ago after having been examin-
ed & admitted a member of Brown Universi-
ty. I had a grand time of it & left soon in
the morning for New Haven, where I stay-
ed three days. I knew several ladies
there my lady McCaw & Miss Prosser Duncan